

Get your pup the exercise and socialization they need at [Pacchetti Dog Park!](#)

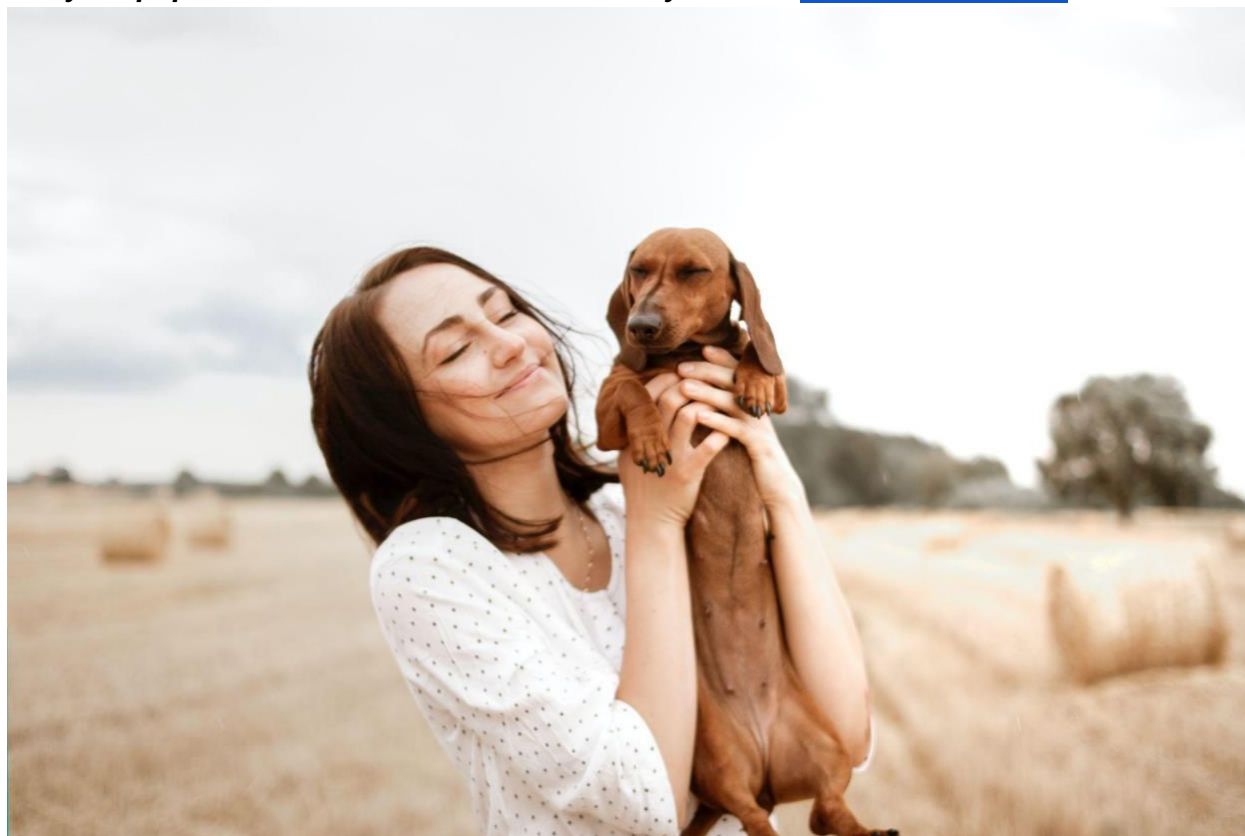


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Bringing Home Your New 4-Legged Pal: How to Prepare for Your First Dog

As a first-time dog owner, preparation may feel overwhelming. How do you choose the right pet? How can you keep your home safe? There are a lot of questions, but fortunately, answers are readily available. We share a few below.

Choose Your New Best Friend

When it comes to choosing a dog, there are all shapes, sizes, and energy levels. Look for a [canine companion that matches your lifestyle](#). For example, if you have limited yard space and do not like rigorous activity, huskies may not be ideal, but a laid back, older golden retriever may thrive. Finding the right dog depends on the size of your home, the type of yard, and your personality.

If you have allergies, [you can find hypoallergenic dogs](#). Breeds that often do not affect allergies include bichon frises, schnauzers, and poodles.

Focus on Safety Precautions

In the house, Preventative Vet suggests creating [a safe space for your pup](#). Keep the area clear of all hazards to dogs, including food items, power cords, and plants. Until you know your animal, assume that he will chew or eat anything he gets his paws on.

To protect your pet outside and prevent escapes, connect with a local fencing contractor to install a fence around the perimeter of your property. [Think about planting flea-repelling plants](#) like rosemary, sage and marigolds, for a pet-safe yard. Research toxic plants to ensure you have nothing growing in your yard that may harm your new four-legged companion.

If you have to leave home all day or for several days, you have the option of daycare or boarding. Doggie daycare services allow your animal to socialize with others and enable you to run errands, go to work and handle daily tasks where you cannot watch your pup.

Purchase Quality Food

Feeding your new dog high-quality food is essential for their health and well-being. Look for foods that provide the necessary nutrients, avoid artificial ingredients, preservatives, and fillers, and have healthy sources of protein such as real meat or fish. Many pet food brands are tailored to specific breeds, ages and health conditions so you can find the best option for your furry friend. Ask your vet for advice on which brand meets your pet's individual needs and make sure not to overfeed them by carefully monitoring portion size.

Feeding your [delicious kibble dog food](#) is a great way to ensure the highest quality nutrition for your pup and keep them healthy. Look for grain-free foods that provide the necessary nutrients, are free of artificial additives and preservatives, and contain real meat as the primary source of protein. You can order these foods online and have them delivered to your door.

Acclimate Your Pet to a Stress-Free Home

According to the American Kennel Club, [routine is critical for a new dog](#). Ask the previous caretakers about the dog's diet. Start out feeding him the same food, even if you plan on changing it later. Feed him at the same time every day and plan your walks and playtime activities.

On the first day, bring your dog home and straight to where you want him to use the bathroom. If he relieves himself, offer a treat and praise. You want to establish good potty training habits as soon as possible. Puppies may need more encouragement and training than adult dogs.

Introduce your dog to different members of the family in calm situations. Remember that pets are especially sensitive to others' level of stress, and your anxious feelings can rub off. Leave your work stress at work, and make sure that you spend as much quality time with them as possible.

To control your pet's whereabouts and keep him comfortable, gate off the areas you spend time in so you can keep an eye on him. Also treat them with soft, safe and durable toys that they can claim as their own.

Rescue dogs in particular [may be fearful at first](#). Bonding takes time, effort, and patience. Fearful dogs may need more space. Giving space shows them they can trust humans again. Let

the animal guide your interactions. Pet him on the back, rather than the head or stomach. Watch for fearful signs and never push him past his limits. Go for walks in safe neighborhoods where you have a low chance of encountering anything frightening.

Bringing home a new furry friend is a fulfilling and exciting experience. To ensure comfort for you and your new dog, prepare your house, purchase high-quality dog food, and take steps to acclimate your pet as soon as you bring him home.